

Title III: Strengthening Institutions (U.S. Department of Education)

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Continuation Project: \$297,623 (*Year 2 of 5*)

Term: 10/01/05-09/30/06

Iowa Lakes Community College serves as fiscal agent for this cooperative project partnership of seven Iowa community colleges: Eastern Iowa Community College, Iowa Lakes, Iowa Western Community College, Northwest Iowa Community College, Southeastern Community College, Southwestern Community College and Western Iowa Tech Community College.

Activity 1: Strengthening Student Performance through Faculty Development and Student Services. \$1,248,950 over five years. To improve online student course completion, academic performance, and satisfaction with the quality of learning through [1] establishing a “user” single point of contact for accessing support services that is seamlessly integrated into partner colleges operational practices, [2] establishing at-risk online student advising and intervention processes, and [3] implementing a comprehensive faculty and staff professional development program designed to build a cadre of faculty who utilize online pedagogy, classroom assessment and technology best practices to strengthen the quality of learning.

Key outcomes for this activity:

- 90% of ICCOC online students will persist to the end of the course;
- 85% of ICCOC online students will successfully complete online courses with a grade of “C” or better;
- New ICCOC online instructors will score an average of 87% or higher on five key course quality indicators (*course organization, syllabus clarity and completeness, instructor feedback, and quality of instruction*) after completing required training components and two semesters experience teaching online;
- 80% of all online students will agree that ICCOC library web-services provide the resources and data required for mastery of course content; and
- Number of ICCOC online students accessing Library web-interface will double.

The Director for Distance Learning and Global Education (Iowa Lakes) will direct the activity.

Project Management and Evaluation -- \$239,165 over five years. About 80% of this budget will support a 25% time Title III Coordinator and a 35% Project Assistant. 20% of the budget will support formative and summative evaluation activities, including an external evaluator in project years 2 and 4.

No funds are requested for Endowment Building. A total of \$1,488,115 will be dedicated to this project over the five year grant term.